



## The Maine Farmer.

N. T. TRUE,  
S. L. BOARDMAN, Editors.

Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man.

## Cruelty to Animals.

True civilization is quite as well marked by the degradations shown towards domestic animals as by the literature of a people. Poets may sing and orators may rouse the passions of an excited multitude, but this is an uncertain test of the character of a people in their interior life. They may be brutal in their habits in spite of all literary culture. There is often a marked manifestation of this trait in quite young children. The boy of six or seven years takes pleasure in sticking pins through the bodies of flies, and see them walk in spite of such inflictions. What he would think at as cruel in older years, he now takes the greatest pleasure in doing.

The habit of beating horses and oxen is unmercifully in a fit of passion is one that cannot be too strongly condemned. In nineteen cases out of twenty, it is for something for which the animal is not responsible. A gate is left open, and the cows get into the garden, and eat the cabbages. Who is to blame for having the cabbages eaten up, the cows or the person who left the gate open? It must always be kept in mind when we are inclined to exercise our wrath upon a domestic animal that they possess none of the moral distinctions between right and wrong. They follow the blind impulses of appetite and instinct. They do not stop to reflect upon the question of right and wrong before performing the act. It is only a matter of fear of being punished that would influence them, and, generally their appetites are stronger than their fears.

A man is proverbially guilty of being harsh to his dumb animals, rarely ever gains the respect of his neighbors. They generally exaggerate his cruelties, while he retaliates by becoming the morose and harsh neighbor and citizen. The influence on a man's character is worse than is generally supposed. A man who will regularly kick a sheep that approaches him confidentially in quest of her salt, is deserving of being kicked severely in return.

But there is another form in which cruelty to the horse has become so common that we cannot forbear calling the attention of managers of our cities to it. To see a horse running with all his might around the race course seems to furnish a great deal of pleasure to gaping crowds. But they little think as that horse retires with foaming mouth and every fiber of his limbs and body quivering, that he is almost ready to drop down dead. No such strain can be made upon the animal without suffering, and we can never look upon that brute animal after such an ordeal without feelings of the deepest sympathy at the treatment he has received. So great is the passion to see a horse trot, that we are almost led to believe in the Darwinian theory by which one animal is derived from another, and that mankind are fast changing into horses. At any rate if this passion for horse racing continues to increase for a few years in the ratio in which it has for the last ten years, we shall expect to see the masses of our population ready to see the life of a horse sacrificed on the race ground the same as the Spaniards delight to see a bull killed in a fight with dogs or by the sword of some valiant knight.

We too little reflect on the moral tendencies of these things, and it is high time that this whole subject of cruelty to animals should be thoroughly considered and that whatever serves to inflict an injury upon our domestic animals should receive the reprobation of every good citizen. We admire the spirit exhibited by a merchant in Boston who was watching a young man while driving a heavy load through the mud. The team was stuck, but instead of thrashing the horses he let them rest a minute, and then went round and spoke to them kindly and cheerfully, and when he gave the word of command, they pulled the load along with a will. That merchant so admired the act, that he found him out and presented him twenty dollars. The horse, the dog, and the ox know well the wishes of their master, otherwise they would not so cheerfully obey him, and kindness will in a great majority of cases control and direct our domestic animals in accordance with our wishes.

## Winter Lectures for Farmers.

In 1866 the Connecticut State Board of Agriculture, at its annual session, made provision for the delivery of a week's course of lectures in different parts of the State, and for this purpose secured the services of Prof. Wm. H. Brewer of the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale College. These lectures were delivered in towns both east and west of the Connecticut river, and embraced the following subjects: Draining, Manures and Breeding. In the report of the Secretary of the Board for that year, he says: "The attendance was good considering the weather, and the interest manifested such as to encourage the repetition of even more extended courses at some future time. The most interest was exhibited in the smallest towns, and it is here that the class most to be benefited reside."

We wish something upon this plan could be carried out among our own farmers, the present winter, and we allude to it thus early in the season as well to call out from our subscribers in different parts of the State their views upon the matter, as to have it meet the attention of our Board of Agriculture at their approaching session. We believe nothing would do so much to awaken among farmers a new zest for practical knowledge, as to make it a source of social harmony and good feeling among neighborhoods and towns, as to attend such a course of lectures, where the person to lecture is possessed of practical as well as scientific knowledge, and is willing to submit to a reasonable degree of quizzing from his auditors. The plan we perfect a start, however, is quite impossible in a work of this character, and we presume is not claimed for it.

The work gives the pedigree of 2821 horses—all of which are numbered after the manner of the American Short Horn Herd Book. Of the pedigrees, horses occupy 400 pages, and mares 350 pages. The appendix embraces 3800 named animals prior to 1840, without extended pedigrees. The trotting supplement contains the pedigrees of over 700 mares, geldings and horses, and this division of the work is brought down to the close of the year 1866. In this volume every animal named can be traced through its pedigree to the earliest trotting race till the close of 1866."

The author of this work, Mr. J. H. Wallace, whose residence is at Muscatine, Iowa, has devoted a large part of his time, for the past ten years, to its compilation, and no one who has not at some time performed a work of a similar character, can have any conception of the labor expended upon this volume of one thousand printed pages. We have examined the work very thoroughly, and so far as the records of Maine horses are concerned we have not detected the slightest error. This is absolutely correct in all its details, however, and we presume is not claimed for it.

The work gives the pedigree of 2821 horses—all of which are numbered after the manner of the American Short Horn Herd Book. Of the pedigrees, horses occupy 400 pages, and mares 350 pages. The appendix embraces 3800 named animals prior to 1840, without extended pedigrees. The trotting supplement contains the pedigrees of over 700 mares, geldings and horses, and this division of the work is brought down to the close of the year 1866. In this volume every animal named can be traced through its pedigree to the earliest trotting race till the close of 1866."

We most heartily commend this volume to all interested in horses, and beseech for it their encouragement and patronage, not only as a satisfactory history of the past, but as furnishing a basis and starting point for greater completeness and accuracy in all the records of the future. To our own mind the publishers speak within bounds when, in their prospectus, they term the work "the most complete publication of the kind in the world." It is published by W. A. Townsend & Adams, 434 Broome street, New York.

**The Strawberry Tomato.**

This tiny looking tomato is becoming a favorite among many good housewives for preserves. Its delicate flavor, and its smooth skin renders it valuable for this purpose. When they were first introduced into this country people did not know what to do with them, but now, like their larger companions of the tomato family, they find a place on the table. They repeat the history of all other vegetables when first introduced into notice. People are slow to accept them till they know whether they are good for anything. Thus what is at first cultivated only as a curiosity, becomes an object of real value.

**The Poultry or Poult.** One of our subscribers in Sidney brought into this city one day last week twelve last spring chickens of the Brahma breed for which he obtained \$14.75. Four of the chickens brought \$5. Who says poultry keeping don't pay?

**Characteristics of Dutch Cattle.**  
MESSRS. EDITORS.—Having noticed that there has been favorable attention given in the *Farmer* of the Dutch cattle, I would like to inquire of those of this breed, what are the characteristics of this breed.

SUBSCRIBER.

Fairfield, Nov. 17, 1867.

The Dutch is a short-horned race of cattle, and in the opinion of many who are well acquainted with the history of the different breeds of nest stock contributed very largely to the building up of the celebrated Durham, or Teeswater stock of a century ago. It has been constantly bred with special reference to dairy qualities both in its native country and also to those who have engaged in breeding them in this country. The fact is well known that in most parts of Holland, dairy farming early became an important branch of industry, and this race of dairy stock existed there long before the efforts of modern breeders in England were turned to the development of the milking qualities of stock.

The Dutch are of large size and possess a strong constitution, which render them excellent as working oxen, while their perfect hardiness fits them to well withstand the severity of our long winters. But it is chiefly as a dairy breed that they possess especially claimed black, white, gray and blue, roan, spotted and white are favorites. Cows entirely of one color are not esteemed.

Importations of this breed were made into this country in 1857, by W. W. Cheney, Esq., of Belmont, Mass., who has bred them with much care, and has probably a larger herd of this breed than any one in the country. We are also glad that some specimens from Mr. Cheney's herd have found their way to our State, as we have great confidence in their marked qualities, and believe they will prove of great advantage to our stock. Thus S. Lang, Esq., of North Taunton, procured a bull from Mr. Cheney in 1865, whose services have been in constant requisition, and whose stock is held in high estimation by farmers in Kennebec county it is that eagerly bought up at high prices wherever it can be procured. It is only a matter of fear of being punished that would influence them, and, generally their appetites are stronger than their fears.

A man is proverbially guilty of being harsh to his dumb animals, rarely ever gains the respect of his neighbors. They generally exaggerate his cruelties, while he retaliates by becoming the morose and harsh neighbor and citizen. The influence on a man's character is worse than is generally supposed. A man who will regularly kick a sheep that approaches him confidentially in quest of her salt, is deserving of being kicked severely in return.

We copy from the *New England Farmer* an extract from an account of a visit to the farm of Mr. Cheney, giving some account of his Dutch cows, which we trust will satisfy our querist, and be of interest to all our readers:

"Entering the stalls we found a man milking one of the Dutch cows. She had been milked twice before, and was in a very bad condition, with a milk pail and common pail upon another, the milk still flowing as freely as it did into the first pail! A cow stool near that had dropped a calf a few days before, which weighed about 113 pounds! And, but they little think as that horse retires with foaming mouth and every fiber of his limbs and body quivering, that he is almost ready to drop down dead. No such strain can be made upon the animal without suffering, and we can never look upon that brute animal after such an ordeal without feelings of the deepest sympathy at the treatment he has received. So great is the passion to see a horse trot, that we are almost led to believe in the Darwinian theory by which one animal is derived from another, and that mankind are fast changing into horses. At any rate if this passion for horse racing continues to increase for a few years in the ratio in which it has for the last ten years, we shall expect to see the masses of our population ready to see the life of a horse sacrificed on the race ground the same as the Spaniards delight to see a bull killed in a fight with dogs or by the sword of some valiant knight."

We too little reflect on the moral tendencies of these things, and it is high time that this whole subject of cruelty to animals should be thoroughly considered and that whatever serves to inflict an injury upon our domestic animals should receive the reprobation of every good citizen. We admire the spirit exhibited by a merchant in Boston who was watching a young man while driving a heavy load through the mud. The team was stuck, but instead of thrashing the horses he let them rest a minute, and then went round and spoke to them kindly and cheerfully, and when he gave the word of command, they pulled the load along with a will. That merchant so admired the act, that he found him out and presented him twenty dollars. The horse, the dog, and the ox know well the wishes of their master, otherwise they would not so cheerfully obey him, and kindness will in a great majority of cases control and direct our domestic animals in accordance with our wishes.

**Wallace's American Stud Book.**

The first volume of this work which has heretofore been announced in our columns is now ready for delivery. In the words of the title-page it is "A Compendium of the Pedigrees of American and Imported Blood Horses, with an appendix of all animals without extended pedigrees, prior to 1840, and a supplement containing all horses and mares that have trotted in public in 2m. 40s., and geldings that have trotted in 2m. 35s., and many of their progenitors and descendants, with all that is known of their blood, from the earliest trotting race till the close of 1866." The author of this work, Mr. J. H. Wallace, whose residence is at Muscatine, Iowa, has devoted a large part of his time, for the past ten years, to its compilation, and no one who has not at some time performed a work of a similar character, can have any conception of the labor expended upon this volume of one thousand printed pages. We have examined the work very thoroughly, and so far as the records of Maine horses are concerned we have not detected the slightest error.

This is absolutely correct in all its details, however, and we presume is not claimed for it.

The work gives the pedigree of 2821 horses—all of which are numbered after the manner of the American Short Horn Herd Book. Of the pedigrees, horses occupy 400 pages, and mares 350 pages. The appendix embraces 3800 named animals prior to 1840, without extended pedigrees. The trotting supplement contains the pedigrees of over 700 mares, geldings and horses, and this division of the work is brought down to the close of the year 1866. In this volume every animal named can be traced through its pedigree to the earliest trotting race till the close of 1866."

We most heartily commend this volume to all interested in horses, and beseech for it their encouragement and patronage, not only as a satisfactory history of the past, but as furnishing a basis and starting point for greater completeness and accuracy in all the records of the future. To our own mind the publishers speak within bounds when, in their prospectus, they term the work "the most complete publication of the kind in the world." It is published by W. A. Townsend & Adams, 434 Broome street, New York.

**The Beech as a Hedge Plant.**

MESSRS. EDITORS.—Having read and heard a great deal on the subject of meteors, and the height of the atmosphere, and having learned something positive on the subject, I would like to add a few remarks.

It will be remembered by many, that a very remarkable meteor was seen in the summer of 1860, (which apparently from August) about southwest by New Haven, having twice the diameter of the sun, and disappeared a little east of southwest by New Haven, and in sight again in one hour.

I saw it over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height at from five hundred to five miles. Now I can posit it was more than ten thousand feet higher. When first seen, it, I thought, as it would be, was about to burst; but, as I could determine and recollect its position at the various points, I could ascertain its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height at from five hundred to five miles. Now I can posit it was more than ten thousand feet higher. When first seen, it, I thought, as it would be, was about to burst; but, as I could determine and recollect its position at the various points, I could ascertain its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height above the earth.

Now, Providence is about one hundred and eighty miles from August, and at that point, according to the distance of the sun, it would be about one hundred and twenty miles from New Haven.

It is certain that it passed over Providence, R. I., and that the star-gazers estimated its height above the earth.

Now

# THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

The Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Thursday, Nov. 28, 1867.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER,

\$2.00 in advance, or \$2.50 if not paid within three months of the date of Subscription.

These terms will be rigidly adhered to in all cases.

All payment made by subscribers in the FARMER will be creditable in accordance with our new mailing method. The printed name upon the paper, in connection with the subscriber's name, will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases, a valid receipt for money paid him.

Every subscriber desiring to change the post office direction of his paper must communicate to us the name of the office to which it has previously been sent, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.

## COLLECTOR'S NOTICE.

Mr. D. DARLING is now engaged in canvassing the county of Penobscot, for the MAINE FARMER.

Mr. STONEY J. SWELL, agent for the Maine Farmer, will canvass Waldo County, during the month of October and November.

Mr. J. A. Atwood, of Litchfield, is now on a visit to our subscribers in Oxford County.

Mr. S. N. TALES is now on a visit to our subscribers in Oxford County.

## Notice to Subscribers.

We find upon our list many subscribers to the FARMER who are in arrears for one or more years, and who, therefore, according to the terms of the paper, are liable for the payment of fifty cents per year in addition to our advance rates of subscription.

To induce a more general payment in advance, on the part of our subscribers, we have concluded to make the following offer: All persons in arrears who will send us the amount due, at the rate of two dollars per year, and two dollars in addition, shall receive credit for all past indebtedness and for a year's subscription in advance. This offer to stand open until the 10th of January, 1868. All payments made at this office by mail, or to our authorized agents previous to that date, will be credited in accordance with the terms above stated.

## Notice to Advertisers.

On and after January 1st, 1868, the rates for advertising in the MAINE FARMER will be increased 20 per cent. All advertisements continued after the above date, except in cases where contracts have been previously made, will be charged at the increased rates. Advertisements ordered for three months or less, to be paid in advance; exceeding three months, quarterly in advance.

## Thanksgiving.

Are we truly thankful? Have we spent a short hour in our endeavor to count the many different blessings we have received during the past year? Have we not like very little children been thoughtful the next moment of the special favors we have enjoyed? It is to be feared that, as a people, we have suffered ourselves to allow the day set apart as a day of praise and rejoicing, and of thanksgiving to the Author of all our blessings, to degenerate into mere sensual enjoyment, the very lowest grade of pleasure. We do not here object to the good Thanksgiving dinner which every son and daughter in the land years for home on that day. The day is now in the year brings with it so much of the feeling of home as this, and this at present seems to be its most redeeming feature. The mother of a family of children never feels happier than when engaged in making preparations for a good dinner on that day for the special gratification of the little ones. No family is so poor in happy New England as not to have something better than usual on that joyous day. No day in the year brings with it so much of the feeling of home as this, and this at present seems to be its most redeeming feature.

The mother of a family of children never feels happier than when engaged in making preparations for a good dinner on that day for the special gratification of the little ones. No family is so poor in happy New England as not to have something better than usual on that joyous day. No day in the year brings with it so much of the feeling of home as this, and this at present seems to be its most redeeming feature.

On our return we called on Bro. Etes of the Picatagus Observer. He is the oldest printer in the State, and by his height and slender form is the very embodiment of a printer and editor. Somebody told us—but with how much truth we know not—that he had not been to Bangor for forty years. At any rate, we could not persuade him to leave his sanctum to take a ride with us.

COUNTY JAILS. The numerous successful attempts in breaking from the jails in this State, should lead to a careful examination of their condition. Burglary has become a profession in our large cities, and branches for carrying on the business are extended to every town where there is a rich deposit of money. These fellows find their way after a time into our county jails, where they devise ways and means to get out, unthought of by the uninitiated. The consequence is, that jails which were once considered perfectly safe, are no longer so.

It would seem as though a building might be so constructed as utterly to preclude the possibility of escape by prisoners almost without the use of tools. But it has been found that a file, a piece of shell, or even an old case knife could be used successfully in sawing off the iron bars of a cell. In many instances, by a concerted plan the prisoners have succeeded in knocking down the keepers when in their presence, and thus escaping from the jail. So many cases of this kind have occurred within a few years that it has become rather hazardous business to be a jailor.

We think it would be well for the Legislature to appoint a committee to examine the different jails in the State, and report their condition to the next Legislature, when action should be taken to have our jails rendered secure. The expense of hunting up runaway prisoners at the present day is inconsiderable sum, while prisoners frequently succeed in escaping entirely from justice. This insecurity of our jails has a tendency to render men bolder in their deeds of crime, even of the worst character, because they are always ready to run the chances of conviction in order to effect their purpose. If bars are not large enough, let larger and more expensive ones be substituted.

On that day there is a greater degree of benevolence than on any other day in the year. The poor minister, and even the brain-working editor, and the busy-fingered printer are remembered and made glad with something to make good cheer at his happy home.

It is a great plea in favor of this day that the last Thursday in November is heretofore to be set apart for this purpose. Schools then have their vacation and are not interfered with. Courts are not in session, and the public arrangements of our State do not interfere with those of another. We could wish that the same arrangement could be made for the Annual Fast to have it universal, and on the same day of the year perpetually, and at a time when it would not break in upon our schools. The last Thursday of February would have, perhaps, better advantages than any other time. The last of April breaks in upon the schools and the month of May is the busy month of the farmer. The day proposed is in a period of leisure and obviates the other objections.

Let us not forget the Great Giver of all our blessings. Let us, like the sweet singer of Israel, be ready on that day to bless the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth, and with him say:

"Thou visitest the earth and waterest it; thou greatly enrichest it with thyer of God, which is full of fruit; thou preparest them corn when thou hast so provided for it.

Thou waterest the ridges thereby abundantly; thou settest the furrows thereof; thou makest it soft with showers; thou blesseth the spring with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness.

They drop upon the pastures of the wilderness; and the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy; they also sing."

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY. The citizens of Lewiston are organizing a Natural History Society. We are glad to hear it. Every town large enough to be a city ought to have a similar society with a room where objects of natural history can be deposited. It is surprising how soon such a society will accumulate a cabinet as soon as it can have a place to deposit specimens. Let half a dozen citizens take hold of such a matter and divide among them the different departments of natural science in accordance with their individual tastes, and in a few years they will acquire a vast amount of interesting and useful knowledge. If young people could have their attention directed more to natural science, it would often fill up many an aching void in life from the interest they have thus acquired. We saw a little fellow scarcely eight years old the last summer, watch the hatching of frog's eggs which he had put in a pan of water, till the little tadpoles had become especially sized frogs, and able to jump out of the water and take care of themselves. The father had him a source of pleasure for hours at a time as he watched their motions and growth. The greatest minds in the world have ever seen, have been the most careful observers of nature. We think taht some of the highest old men we have ever seen were among those who had thus made natural history a study during their hours of leisure. There is an eager desire in the public mind for the truth, and all the people ask is to be able to comprehend it. The more we engage in the study of nature the better they will comprehend nature's laws. The boy who finds a mineral, or the girl a flower, learns something about the world we live in that they did not know before.

THE TEMPERANCE MEETING held in Granite Hall, in this city on Friday evening last, was rather thinly attended, and the interest manifested was anything but encouraging to the friends of the cause. Joe E. Hall Esq., of Portland, presided, and made some introductory remarks; but several of the other speakers announced upon the posters did not appear. Brief speeches were, however, made by Rev. Mr. Copeland, of Brunswick, and State Lecturer, Rev. L. J. Fletcher of Gardner.

The new sign over the door of Pierces Brothers in this city, is one of the most attractive and artistic to be seen in Water street, and throws credit upon the cunning hand of the artist-Captain who painted it. Their new store is well supplied with books, stationery, and all the new publications of the day, together with a large array of fancy and useful articles serviceable for holiday gifts. The FARMER can always be found at their counter, as soon as published.

THE BREACH OF PROMISE Case. On Wednesday evening of the present week, under the auspices of the Atlantic Engine Company of this city, upon the occasion of the opening of Eureka Hall, just completed in the new brick block recently erected by Messrs. Chisholm & Robinson and P. S. Percival on the corner of Bangor and Corn streets, east side. The occasion will no doubt be a very pleasant one, and did the gravity of the indulgence, we should be extremely happy to avail ourselves of the polite invitation of the managers to be present.

THE Kennebec Journal renew the call made by their readers the "Crown Wreath but Not Worn," published by Mr. Green of Boston, for a few weeks since, to send in the MAINE FARMER a few weeks hence, and to pay a short sum for the same, upon the merits of the affair, until counter statements and facts can be submitted to the public, which may materially alter the complexion of the publications and the flying reports.

We cheerfully give place to the "reasonable Request," in the sincere hope that the "counter statements and facts" referred to by our correspondent as forthcoming, will be sufficient to remove the unfavorable impression created in the public mind by the publication of Mr. Green's pamphlet. We trust it is not necessary for us to say in this connection, that what has been written in the FARMER upon this subject, was dictated by no unfriendly feeling towards the Seminary or its officers, and certainly with no other regard than that the whole truth should be known to the unfortunate affair, and justice be done to all the parties concerned.

THE new sign over the door of Pierces Brothers in this city, is one of the most attractive and artistic to be seen in Water street, and throws credit upon the cunning hand of the artist-Captain who painted it. Their new store is well supplied with books, stationery, and all the new publications of the day, together with a large array of fancy and useful articles serviceable for holiday gifts. The FARMER can always be found at their counter, as soon as published.

THE BREACH OF PROMISE Case. On Wednesday evening the jury in the case of Miss Eleanor Lawrence, Doreen Cooke of Gardner, for breach of promise of marriage, brought in a verdict of \$8,000 damages for the plaintiff. The case was given to the jury at five o'clock P. M. on Tuesday, and they were only one hour in agreeing upon their verdict. The amount claimed was \$10,000.

The S. J. Court will probably close its session on Wednesday of the present week. The term has been the longest of any held for ten years past, and a large amount of business has been disposed of.

The S. J. Court will probably close its session on Wednesday of the present week. The term has been the longest of any held for ten years past, and a large amount of business has been disposed of.

## Editorial Correspondence.

FOXBROOK, Nov. 7, 1867.

DEAR FARMER.—By invitation of C. Chamberlain, Esq., we took a ride of five miles to Wise's Hill, in the northeast part of Guilford. The ride carried us by many excellent farms, with fine-looking buildings—indeed, there are but few places in Maine where one will see so many good farm buildings as here. We traversed the slate formation, which crops out all along the road. Sometimes it appears of good quality. In two or three places it is thought that it will be sufficient importance to work as soon as the railroad reaches Dover. The Court House and some other buildings are covered with slate from this vicinity. We are sanguine that slate must eventually be quarried and used here instead of shingles.

Leaving our carriage we commenced climbing the ascent of the hill. Large blocks of granite showed us that we were near to reach the granite formation. Ascending the hill through the bushes, we soon passed over a bed of mica slate, curled and twisted up by the forces of the granite through it. As soon as we reached the summit we suddenly came upon the granite, which is a back-bone stretched across the country to the northwest. Our surprise was great to find it here in a country where nothing but slate was supposed to exist. We believe our State Geologists did not recognize it. Thus within a third of a mile we crossed distinct formations of granite, mica, slate and argillaceous slate. The granite is of firm texture, and could be split out in immense blocks for all kinds of purposes for which it is employed.

The north of this hill, Scebe Lake is in sight. This is a pretty sheet of water, twelve miles in length. It is quite irregular in shape, and is nestled among the mountains, rendering it very picturesque.

A steamboat runs the whole length, and at its further extremity is a hotel for summer travel. As soon as the railroad reaches this vicinity it must be an interesting place of summer resort.

To the north is a range of hills and bluffs in Ellotsville, where quite a number of settlers took up farms, but have now abandoned it entirely, so that it is without incorporation as a town—the only instance of this we have ever heard of in New England. The reason assigned for the abandonment of the place, was that it was so inaccessible, without any prospect of a thoroughfare through the town. West of Scebe Lake is Howard and Monson, and north of the latter is Greenville, near the shore of Moosehead lake. The stage for Moosehead lake passes us, which looks as though it was made upon honor. It was loaded with shoddy men and an abundance of baggage, but with room for one more. On our return we examined a spot where the slate crops out which seemed to us of excellent rift. Our visit to Foxbrook and Dover was an exceedingly pleasant one. The kind attentions of so many citizens forbids us from singling out any. We met here schoolmen whom we have not seen before since our boyhood; and we left the place with the feeling that we would prefer this to any other village of our acquaintance as a place of residence, except that which is our own home.

On our return we called on Bro. Etes of the Picatagus Observer. He is the oldest printer in the State, and by his height and slender form is the very embodiment of a printer and editor. Somebody told us—but with how much truth we know not—that he had not been to Bangor for forty years. At any rate, we could not persuade him to leave his sanctum to take a ride with us.

COUNTY JAILS. The numerous successful attempts in breaking from the jails in this State, should lead to a careful examination of their condition.

Burglary has become a profession in our large cities, and branches for carrying on the business are extended to every town where there is a rich deposit of money.

These fellows find their way after a time into our county jails, where they devise ways and means to get out, unthought of by the uninitiated.

The consequence is, that jails which were once considered perfectly safe, are no longer so.

It would seem as though a building might be so constructed as utterly to preclude the possibility of escape by prisoners almost without the use of tools.

But it has been found that a file, a piece of shell, or even an old case knife could be used successfully in sawing off the iron bars of a cell.

In many instances, by a concerted plan the prisoners have succeeded in knocking down the keepers when in their presence, and thus escaping from the jail.

So many cases of this kind have occurred within a few years that it has become rather hazardous business to be a jailor.

We think it would be well for the Legislature to appoint a committee to examine the different jails in the State, and report their condition to the next Legislature, when action should be taken to have our jails rendered secure.

The expense of hunting up runaway prisoners at the present day is inconsiderable sum, while prisoners frequently succeed in escaping entirely from justice.

This insecurity of our jails has a tendency to render men bolder in their deeds of crime, even of the worst character, because they are always ready to run the chances of conviction in order to effect their purpose.

If bars are not large enough, let larger and more expensive ones be substituted.

On that day there is a greater degree of benevolence than on any other day in the year. The poor minister, and even the brain-working editor, and the busy-fingered printer are remembered and made glad with something to make good cheer at his happy home.

It is a great plea in favor of this day that the last Thursday in November is heretofore to be set apart for this purpose.

Schools then have their vacation and are not interfered with.

Courts are not in session, and the public arrangements of our State do not interfere with those of another.

We could wish that the same arrangement could be made for the Annual Fast to have it universal, and on the same day of the year perpetually, and at a time when it would not break in upon our schools.

The last Thursday of February would have, perhaps, better advantages than any other time.

The last of April breaks in upon the schools and the month of May is the busy month of the farmer.

The day proposed is in a period of leisure and obviates the other objections.

Let us not forget the Great Giver of all our blessings.

Let us, like the sweet singer of Israel, be ready on that day to bless the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth, and with him say:

"Thou visitest the earth and waterest it; thou greatly enrichest it with thyer of God, which is full of fruit;

"Thou blesseth the spring with thy goodness;

"Thou paths drop fatness.

The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy; they also sing."

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY. The citizens of Lewiston are organizing a Natural History Society. We are glad to hear it. Every town large enough to be a city ought to have a similar society with a room where objects of natural history can be deposited.

It is surprising how soon such a society will accumulate a cabinet as soon as it can have a place to deposit specimens.

Let half a dozen citizens take hold of such a matter and divide among them the different departments of natural science in accordance with their individual tastes, and in a few years they will acquire a vast amount of interesting and useful knowledge.

If young people could have their attention directed more to natural science, it would often fill up many an aching void in life from the interest they have thus acquired.

We saw a little fellow scarcely eight years old the last summer, watch the hatching of frog's eggs which he had put in a pan of water, till the little tadpoles had become especially sized frogs, and able to jump out of the water and take care of themselves.

The father had him a source of pleasure for hours at a time as he watched their motions and growth.

The greatest minds in the world have ever seen, have been the most careful observers of nature.

We think taht some of the highest old men we have ever seen were among those who had thus made natural history a study during their hours of leisure.

There is an eager desire in the public mind for the truth, and all the people ask is to be able to comprehend it.

The more we engage in the study of nature the better they will comprehend nature's laws.

The boy who finds a mineral, or the girl a flower, learns something about the world we live in that they did not know before.

THE TEMPERANCE MEETING held in Granite Hall, in this city on Friday evening last, was rather thinly attended, and the interest manifested was anything but encouraging to the friends of the cause.

Joe E. Hall Esq., of Portland, presided, and made some introductory remarks; but several of the other speakers announced upon the posters did not appear.

Brief speeches were, however, made by Rev. Mr. Copeland, of Brunswick, and State Lecturer, Rev. L. J. Fletcher of Gardner.

The new sign over the door of Pierces Brothers in this city, is one of the most attractive and artistic to be seen in Water street, and throws credit upon the cunning hand



